Wardski's

1979 S. 15th St., Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53204

September 7, 2005

The Honorable Robert W. Puente 200 E. Wells St. City Hall, Room 205 Milwaukee, WI 53202

Dear Chairman Puente:

The business that I own will lose many of our customers if smoking is banned in bars and restaurants in Milwaukee. Our family business depends on our loyal crowd of regular customers to stay in business. Many of these regular customers are smokers, and we will not be able to keep them in our establishment if they can not smoke. The Common Council can not possibly ignore the fact that most of our customers are smokers.

Given the entrepreneurial spirit of our country, someone would have already opened a non-smoking bar if they had the possibility of being a success. These types of businesses are not common because smoking and drinking go together.

I would hope that a common sense public servant like you would oppose this unnecessary government regulation. That is what this legislation represents. It is unnecessary government regulation that will hurt the bar and restaurant community in our city. People can already vote their smoking preferences with their pocket book. No one is forced to patronize or work in an establishment that allows smoking.

I hope that you and your colleagues will choose to protect small businesses and oppose a city wide smoking ban. The hospitality industry is already one of the most heavily regulated industries.

Sincerely,

Sharon Ward

Southern Zone Vice President

Mum ward

Tavern League of Wisconsin

Wardski's

1979 S. 15th St., Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53204

September 7, 2005

The Honorable Terry Witkowski 200 E. Wells St. City Hall, Room 205 Milwaukee, WI 53202

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Sincerely,

Sharon Ward

The Ward

Southern Zone Vice President

Tavern League of Wisconsin

Broadway Baby Dinner Theatre

5132 W. Mill Rd. Milwaukee, WI 53218

September 7, 2005

The Honorable Michael Murphy 200 E. Wells St. City Hall, Room 205 Milwaukee, WI 53202

Dear Alderman Murphy:

I have owned Broadway Baby Dinner Theatre on W. Mill Rd. for almost 18 years, and I wanted to convey to you some of my thoughts about a potential smoking ban here in Milwaukee. My business would have to close if my customers were not allowed to smoke in my business. The Common Council would be better served to continue trusting the business owner to decide the smoking policies of their own establishments. For example, I have banned smoking in the dinner theatre part of my business, but I allow smoking in the bar area of my business.

My bar area helps support my dinner theatre business, and my dinner theatre business helps support my bar area. If the city government destroys my bar business then they would also destroy my dinner theatre business. I estimate that I would lose 25% of my customers if they could not smoke in my business.

I have heard quite a bit of rumblings about there being a big need to protect the health of the employees who work in smoking environments. The groups that are pushing these smoking bans are using employees of hospitality establishments as pawns to push their agenda. 29 out 31 of my employees smoke, and they do not support this legislation.

Please remember that businesses are not required to operate in Milwaukee for the rest of their existence. An unfriendly business environment will cause even more businesses to leave our city.

Thank you for your time and please oppose a smoking ban.

John W Bolm

Sincerely,

John Bohan

Broadway Baby Dinner Theatre

5132 W. Mill Rd. Milwaukee, WI 53218

September 7, 2005

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Thank you for your time and please oppose a smoking ban.

Sincerely,

laan Rohan

HOB NOB

Bar and Restaurant

The Honorable Tony Zielinski City Hall, Room 205 200 East Wells St. Milwaukee, WI 53202

Dear Alderman Zielinski:

I have been an owner of the Hob Nob for eight years and I have several concerns regarding the smoking ban that council is about to discuss. I am asking that you oppose any measure that infringes on the rights of property owners.

I have followed the media coverage of bans passed in several other cities around the country. One of the questions I have never seen answered before a ban is passed is who will enforce the measure? Further, who will pay for the workers needed to enforce this act? I have the feeling that somehow I will be forced to pay for a measure that I am opposed to.

Has the Common Council given any thought to how this ban will affect the quality of life of neighborhoods that have taverns? The number of cigarette butts littering the ground outside of taverns is bound to explode as smokers are forced to step outside. Is the city prepared to manage the inevitable increase in complaints as loud patrons are outside late at night? Are bars like mine going to pay the price for this as well?

Finally, is the common council prepared to reimburse me when my bar suffers from a decrease in sales as smokers go elsewhere with their entertainment dollars? Is the city prepared to reimburse my employees as their tips dry up? Is the city doing so well that we can afford to lose tax dollars from bars and employees?

Thank you for you time. Again, please oppose any ban that would hurt bar employees and owners.

Sincerely,

Tom Steinbrenner

HOB NOB

Bar and Restaurant

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Sincerely,

Tom Steinbrenner

Tom Steinhem

September 7, 2005

The Honorable Robert Puente 200 E. Wells St. City Hall, Room 205 Milwaukee, WI 53202

Dear Alderman Puente:

I am writing to you to express to you my severe reservations about potential smoking ban for bars and restaurants in Milwaukee. I actually own a business outside the city limits, but I recognize as a business owner that this is a dangerous precedent that might spread to other areas like my municipality of Oak Creek. As it has done in other places around the country like Lexington, KY and Madison, smoking bans in bars and restaurants have hurt these types of businesses.

The hospitality business requires you to do whatever you can to accommodate the needs of your customers and to keep them in your establishment as long as possible. Please consider a less restrictive ban that exempts businesses whose livelihood depends on allowing smoking.

Businesses around the area like mine need your governing body to set a strong example by opposing this legislation.

Thank you,

Al Passehl-Owner

Classic Lanes & Banquet Halls

7501 S. Howell

Oak Creek, WI 53154

September 7, 2005

The Honorable Terry Witkowski 200 E. Wells St. City Hall, Room 205 Milwaukee, WI 53202

Dear Alderman Witkowski:

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7501 S. Howell

Oak Creek, WI 53154

Sugar Cane

The Honorable Terry L. Witkowski City Hall, Room 205 200 East Wells St. Milwaukee, WI 53202

Dear Alderman Witkowski:

I am the owner of the Sugar Cane Bar and I am the Vice President of the Milwaukee County Hospitality Association and I am contacting you today to ask that you oppose any smoking ban that will hurt bars and restaurants.

I understand that some people in favor of the ban argue that there will be no decrease in my business. The further argue that my business will increase. I am here to tell you that this is absolutely ridiculous. Have any of these people ever owned a bar? If this argument was true would not I as a bar owner be aware of these market factors and make my place non-smoking?

I ask you to tour my bar on any weekend night and count the number of people smoking in the bar. It is at least eighty percent smokers. The smokers will not continue to come to my bar if they cannot smoke. They also will take many of the non-smokers with them as they are going to bars that allow smoking with their friends who smoke. I do not believe that there is group of non-smokers sitting around waiting for smoking ban. If they were out there we bar owners would find them.

Please reject this unbelievable argument and vote against the smoking ban.

Sincerely,

Sharon Nowak

Sour Mount

Sugar Cane

The Honorable Robert Puente City Hall, Room 205 200 East Wells St. Milwaukee, WI 53202

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Sincerely,

Sharon Nowak

Social reverle

MiXers

Sports Bar 3430 North 84th Street Milwaukee, WI 53222

July 28, 2005

The Honorable Willie Hines, Jr. 200 East Wells Street City Hall, Room 205 Milwaukee, WI 53202-3570

Dear President Hines:

We are contacting you today to request that you oppose the smoking ban currently being discussed by council.

We think that council is treading into dangerous territory by banning a legal substance. Council has to answer serious questions about how they plan to fund a program to police this mandate. Also, they have to explain to bar and restaurant owners and employees how they are going to make up the money that this ban would surely cost them.

Please do the right thing and oppose this bill until these questions are answered.

Sincerely,

Lyn Hildenbrand

Co-Owner

Malcolm Martin

Co-Owner

MiXers

Sports Bar 3430 North 84th Street Milwaukee, WI 53222

July 28, 2005

The Honorable James A. Bohl, Jr. 200 East Wells Street City Hall, Room 205 Milwaukee, WI 53202-3570

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Please do the right thing and oppose this bill until these questions are answered.

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Malcolm Martin

Dans. Mai

Co-Owner

Rhino's

July 28, 2005

The Honorable James A. Bohl, Jr. 200 East Wells Street City Hall, Room 205 Milwaukee, WI 53202-3570

Dear Alderman Bohl:

I have been in the tavern business sometime and I am contacting you today to tell you I am strongly opposed to the smoking ban currently being discussed.

My reasons for this opposition stems from several inherent flaws in the logic used by those who advocate for what can only be considered a violation of property rights. First, I question the wisdom of any governing body that thinks business owners are incapable of deciding how best to cater to our customers. The desires of our customers, who spend their hard earned money here, are most important. If those customers can not enjoy a legal product in our bar, then they will go somewhere else. Can the city afford the loss of revenue from people taking their money to a surrounding community that understands the word hospitality?

My second reason is that I believe that those who advocate for non-smoking are not our typical clientele. They stress that many non-smokers will start frequenting our establishment and that in the long run it will be good for business. This is absolutely fantasy presented as fact by people who have never run a bar. How would they know what is good for my business? I have long standing relationships with our current regulars and we welcome all comers but we do not force anyone into our establishment. If anybody does not like that we allow smoking, they are free to go elsewhere.

Thank you for your consideration. Please protect my property rights and my customers' right to frequent an establishment that caters to their desires.

Sincerely,

Karen A. Miller

Rhino's

July 28, 2005

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& Miller

Sincerely,

Karen A. Miller

Cesar's

INN

5527 West National Milwaukee WI 53214

July 26, 2005

The Honorable Tom Barrett 200 E. Wells St. City Hall, Room 201 Milwaukee, WI 53202

Dear Mayor Barrett:

I thought that I would take some time to contact you today and request that you oppose the smoking ban in taverns.

I own Cesar's Inn tavern in your district. I am in favor of personal choice and making sure that my tavern stay's open. I do not think that the city should be telling people how to live and what choices they should make. I also know all of the taverns regulars. They are more than customers; they are friends. Those friends would not be stopping by as frequently if they have to step out into a Milwaukee winter to enjoy a cigarette. They will find a venue where they could smoke. Without regulars I would be forced to close and several people would be out of a job.

Please oppose any ban that would close my business and other neighborhood taverns like it. Thank you for your consideration.

terrocit

Sincerely,

Gary Janočik

Cesar's

INN

5527 West National Milwaukee WI 53214

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Please oppose any ban that would close my business and other neighborhood taverns like it. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Gary Janocik

Encore

July 26, 2005

The Honorable Mike Murphy 200 E. Wells St. City Hall, Room 205 Milwaukee, WI 53202

Dear Alderman Murphy:

I am requesting that you oppose the smoking ban currently being discussed by County Council. I am a manager and I believe it will cost some of my staff members their job at the Encore.

I work in an establishment that is meant to serve those who are over 21. The reasons people frequent my establishment is that we allow them to relax. Part of that relaxation typically includes a cigarette. I want my customers to enjoy themselves. If they are not able to do that, they will stop coming in.

There are several other adult entertainment establishments within several miles of my club. These establishments are outside of the city. Our customers are going to head to those places to relax and take their entertainment dollars with them.

Please protect my job from thoughtless legislation which considers bars to be no different than health clubs. People are not forced to come to my establishment, but the ban will chase them out.

Sincerely.

Nick Monreal

Encore

July 26, 2005

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Sincerely,

Nick Monreal

Ark Inn

July 26, 2005

The Honorable Tom Barrett 200 E. Wells St. City Hall, Room 201 Milwaukee, WI 53202

Dear Mayor Barrett:

Please consider seriously the proposed smoking ban because it will hurt businesses in the city and infringe on the rights of hard working people.

I am an owner of the Ark Inn and want you to oppose this legislation. I believe that it will hurt my business. The ban will reduce the number of customers coming in and the length of time they spend here. That will hurt my bottom line and the tips of the great people that work here. Can the city afford to lose money as thousands of individuals head to surrounding communities with their entertainment dollars?

Please protect the city's economy, my businesses and hundreds of jobs are at stake.

Sincerely,

Dan Crawford

Land L Cyfol

Ark Inn

July 26, 2005

The Honorable Mike Murphy 200 E. Wells St. City Hall, Room 205 Milwaukee, WI 53202

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Sincerely,

Dan Crawford



The Honorable Mike Murphy 200 E. Wells St. City Hall, Room 205 Milwaukee, WI 53202

July 26, 2005

Dear Alderman Murphy:

I am writing you today as a bar owner who is very concerned with the discussion that is taking place concerning the smoking ban. I do not believe that government's role should include telling me how to run my business.

I do not force customers or employees to come into my bar. If they want to frequent or work in an establishment that does not allow smoking, there are already plenty of non-smoking establishments in the city.

I believe that this ban would hurt my business. If my business suffers, that may force me to reduce the hours of my employees. Does the city want to hurt the pockets of small business owners and their employees? Please do the right thing and oppose any ban that would hurt bars and restaurant.

Sincerely,

Judy Sather

Judy Sather



July 26, 2005

The Honorable Tom Barrett 200 E. Wells St. City Hall, Room 201 Milwaukee, WI 53202

Dear Mayor Barrett:

I am a manager at Kelly's Bleacher's. I feel that the smoking policy of a bar or restaurant should be a financial decision that rests in the hands of the business owner. Owners should have the right to make choices that are in the best interest of their businesses', and I feel that allowing smoking in our establishment is good for business.

Kelly's would suffer if our customers could not smoke. It is my hope that the city government will prevent this from happening, and that they will protect businesses that want to allow smoking. Hospitality businesses should not have to face negative economic consequences by having to accommodate people who are not forced to frequent these types of establishments, since it will probably lead to a loss of money for me.

Thank you in advance for your leadership on this issue.

Sincerely Unita Zierath

Anita Zierath



July 26, 2005

The Honorable Mike Murphy 200 E. Wells St. City Hall, Room 205 Milwaukee, WI 53202

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Thank you in advance for your leadership on this issue.

Sincerely, and zurate

Anita Zierath

Steve's on Bluemound

July 26, 2005

The Honorable Mike Murphy 200 E. Wells St. City Hall, Room 205 Milwaukee, WI 53202

Dear Alderman Murphy:

I am requesting that you oppose the smoking ban currently being discussed by the common council.

I work at an establishment that generally caters to those who are over 21. The reason people frequent my establishment is that we allow them to relax. Part of that relaxation occasionally includes a cigarette. I want my customers to enjoy themselves. If they are not able to do that, they will stop coming in.

There are several other establishments within several miles of my bar. These establishments are outside the jurisdiction of the city. Our customers are going to head to those places to relax and take their entertainment dollars with them.

Please protect my bar from thoughtless legislation that considers bars to be no different than hospitals. People are not forced to come to my bar, but the ban will chase them out.

Sincerely,

Renee McNutt

Lenel Mcneut

Steve's on Bluemound

July 26, 2005

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Sincerely,

Renee McNutt

Renée Monuth

Dana's Fieldhouse

July 26, 2005

The Honorable Mike Murphy 200 E. Wells St. City Hall, Room 205 Milwaukee, WI 53202

Dear Alderman Murphy:

As an employee at Dana's Fieldhouse, I would like to request that you oppose the smoking ban currently before council unless it protects my job.

There is a desire among the majority of our customers to enjoy tobacco products. I do not advocate that people smoke but I do advocate for my job. I believe that any potential customer will understand that Dana's is an establishment that allows smoking. That customer then has the freedom to frequent or not frequent this establishment. Likewise, I have made the choice to work here. I would ask you and the council to respect the choices of intelligent consumers and employees.

Thank you for your consideration.

nell In

Sincerely,

Neil Smith

Dana's Fieldhouse

July 26, 2005

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Nell Dan

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Neil Smith

J & J's Bar

July 26, 2005

The Honorable Willie Hines, Jr. 200 E. Wells St. City Hall, Room 205 Milwaukee, WI 53202

Dear Alderman Hines:

I am requesting that you oppose any smoking band that will not protect the bar I work for from economic ruin.

As the owner of the J&J's Bar and I believe that the right to choose whether or J&J's should allow smoking is up to me as the owner. I do not give much credibility to the argument that this bill will protect workers. The workers who are employed here have made the choice to work here knowing it was a smoking establishment and they themselves smoke.

I fail to see how costing some of my staff their jobs would help their health. I see everyday customers who came to play pool stay and have a couple of drinks. If they cannot smoke, they will not stay, assuming they even bothered to come in the first place. That means less money coming in. That translates into less shifts and lost jobs.

Thank you for taking the time to listen to my concerns. Again, please oppose this bill and protect the jobs of people I enjoy working with everyday.

Sincerely,

Julius Jackson

J & J's Bar

July 26, 2005

The Honorable Tom Barrett 200 E. Wells St. City Hall, Room 201 Milwaukee, WI 53202

Dear Mayor Barrett:

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Thank you for taking the time to listen to my concerns. Again, please oppose this bill and protect the jobs of people I enjoy working with everyday.

Holin Zasa

Sincerely,

Julius Jackson

Willie's Club DeVille

July 25, 2005

The Honorable Mike McGee, Jr. 200 East Wells Street City Hall, Room 205 Milwaukee, WI 53202-3570

Dear Alderman McGee:

I have been in the tavern business for some time and am contacting you today to tell you I am strongly opposed to the smoking ban currently being discussed.

My reasons for this opposition stems from several inherent flaws in the logic used by those who advocate for what can only be considered a violation of property rights. First, I question the wisdom of any governing body that thinks we as business owners are incapable of deciding how best to cater to our customers. My personal preference on smoking does not affect my position on this subject at my tavern. The desires of our customers, who spend their hard earned money here, are most important. If those customers can not enjoy a legal product in our bar, then they will go somewhere else. Can the city afford the loss of revenue from people taking their money to surrounding communities that understand the word hospitality?

My second reason is that I believe that those who advocate for non-smoking are not my typical clientele. They stress that many non-smokers will start frequenting my establishment and that in the long run it will be good for business. This is absolutely fantasy presented as fact by people who have never run a bar. How would they know what is good for my business? I have long relationships with my current regulars and I welcome all comers but we do not force anyone into the establishment. If anybody does not like that we allow smoking, they are free to go elsewhere.

Thank you for your consideration. Please protect my property rights and my customers' right to frequent an establishment that caters to their desires.

Sincerely,

Willie Weddle

3726 North Port Washington Milwaukee, WI 53212

Celebre Medalle

J & J'S TAP

1731 w. Atkinson Ave. Milwaukee, WI 53206

July 25, 2005

The Honorable Mike McGee, Jr. 200 E. Wells St. City Hall, Room 205 Milwaukee, WI 53202

nestolite

Dear Alderman McGee:

I have owned J & J's Tap in the 6th Ward for <u>30 years</u>, and I am concerned that a smoking ban would inflict harm on my business. In order to survive, bars have to be able to allow smoking. People come into bars so they can smoke and drink at the same time.

The city collects a lot of tax revenue from bars and restaurants. If we suffer a decline in business due to a smoking ban, then where is the new tax revenue going to come from.

The smoking policy of an establishment is best left up to the owner of that establishment. Please continue to give the owners the ability to set the smoking policy of their own business.

Sincerely,

James White

Mike Nash 1731 W. Atkinson Ave. Milwaukee, WI 53206

July 25, 2005

Alderman Mike McGee, Jr. 200 E. Wells St. City Hall, Room 205 Milwaukee, WI 53202

Dear Alderman McGee:

I am employed as a bartender at J and J's Tap in your district, and I wanted to let you know that a smoking ban in my place of employment would be absolutely devastating to mine and my coworkers' incomes. Our business would plummet if our customers did not have the right to smoke.

It is amazing to me that the council is even having this debate about possibly banning smoking in bars and restaurants. No one is forced to come into these establishments. Not to mention, there are no children in a bar. 80% of our customers are smokers.

Please oppose a smoking ban for bars and restaurants. I have been a bartender for 9 years, and I don't need my income slashed by a smoking ban.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of this letter.

Sincerely,

Mike Nash
Mike Mal

Catfish Lounge 3646 N. Teutonia Ave. Milwaukee, WI 53206

July 25, 2005

The Honorable Mike McGee, Jr. 200 E. Wells St. City Hall, Room 205 Milwaukee, WI 53202

Dear Alderman McGee:

I am a bar owner in your ward, and I wanted to urge you to consider the harm that this smoking ban will do to my business when you consider a potential city smoking ban. Bottom line: If my customers can not smoke, then I will lose business. It is that simple.

People already have a choice on whether or not they go into a place that is smoking or non-smoking. For example, nobody has to come into my establishment to pay their taxes or get their drivers' license renewed. People have a choice on whether or not they patronize my business, and if the government passes this outrageous ban than many of them will choose to stay home or go to places outside of the city.

Why is the Common Council even bothering to waste their time with this issue? If the Common Council is really concerned about public heath, then they should address more important issues like having too many guns on the street. People have a choice on whether or not they patronize a bar that allows smoking, but they do not have a choice from being killed by a firearm.

James Hlugny

Sincerely,

James Gladley Owner-17 years

Caspar's Lounge

1300 W. Keefe Ave., Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53206

July 26, 2005

The Honorable Mike McGee, Jr. 200 E. Wells St. City Hall, Room 205 Milwaukee, WI 53202

Dear Alderman McGee:

The business that I have owned for 20 years will lose many of our customers if smoking is banned in bars and restaurants in Milwaukee. My business depends on our loyal crowd of regular customers to stay in business. Many of these regular customers are smokers, and we will not be able to keep them in our establishment if they can not smoke. 80% of our customers are smokers.

Given the entrepreneurial spirit of our country, someone would have already opened a non-smoking bar if they had the possibility of being a success. These types of businesses are not common because smoking and drinking go together.

I hope that you and your colleagues will choose to protect small businesses and oppose a city smoking ban. The hospitality industry is already one of the most heavily regulated industries.

My two employees and I are depending on you to help protect our incomes by opposing this legislation.

Sincerely,

Luther Brown

Luther Brown

Luther Brown

Caspar's Lounge

1300 W. Keefe Ave., Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53206

July 26, 2005

The Honorable Tom Barrett Office of the Mayor 200 E. Wells St. City Hall, Room 201 Milwaukee, WI 53202

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I hope that you and your colleagues will choose to protect small businesses and oppose a city smoking ban. The hospitality industry is already one of the most heavily regulated industries.

My two employees and I are depending on you to help protect our incomes by opposing this legislation.

Sincerely,

Luther Brown



2743 N. 59th St. Milwaukee, WI 53210

July 26, 2005

The Honorable Michael J. Murphy 200 E. Wells St. City Hall, Room 205 Milwaukee, WI 53202

Dear Alderman Murphy:

When I opened the bar that I have owned for seven years; I made the choice to allow my customers to smoke in my establishment. 95% of my customers are smokers, and the 5% that do not smoke do not mind the smell of cigarette smoke. The entrepreneurship spirit of our country is best served when business owners are given the power to make choices that are the best for their business, and it is in the best interest of my business to allow smoking. After all, smoking cigarettes and cigars is still legal!

The no-smoking crusaders pushing this legislation are trying force their will on private businesses that they will never even patronize, regardless of that establishment's smoking policy. If they want a non-smoking bar, then they should put their money together and open up and see how successful it is compared to smoking bars. The reason that there are not too many non-smoking bars is that there is no market for smoke free bars. Small business owners are not stupid. They would have already opened countless smoke free bars if there were a demand.

Please respect the choices of small business owners and consumers and preserve the right to choose the smoking policy of your own business. A good compromise on this issue would be to require businesses to put up a sign on the front door that states the smoking policy of that establishment.

dusan Palmer

Sincerely,

Susan Palmer

Hard Ride Saloon

2743 N. 59th St. Milwaukee, WI 53210

July 26, 2005

The Honorable Tom Barrett Office of the Mayor 200 E. Wells St. City Hall, Room 201 Milwaukee, WI 53202

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Please respect the choices of small business owners and consumers and preserve the right to choose the smoking policy of your own business. A good compromise on this issue would be to require businesses to put up a sign on the front door that states the smoking policy of that establishment.

Sincerely, Awan Palmer

Susan Palmer

Kathy Gott Wally's Pub 5525 W. Lisbon Ave. Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53210

July 26, 2005

Alderman Michael Murphy 200 E. Wells St. City Hall, Room 205 Milwaukee, WI 53202

Dear Alderman Murphy:

I have worked as a bartender for 16 years, and a smoking ban would destroy the way that I earn a living. My place of employment is a typical neighborhood bar. Most of my income is based on tips, which will evaporate if my loyal customers are not allowed to smoke.

This is a non-issue being fueled by special interest groups that are trying to manufacture a so-called problem for them to spend their grant money. These groups claim they are pushing this legislation to protect the employees of bars and restaurants. I am an employee of a bar, and I do not want their "protection." They do not speak for me and most other bar and restaurant workers. I have made a choice to work in a smoking establishment, and I have made a choice to smoke.

The city government should protect our jobs and respect those choices.

Sincerely,

Kathy Gott

Kathy Stott

Kathy Gott Wally's Pub 5525 W. Lisbon Ave. Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53210

July 26, 2005

The Honorable Tom Barrett Office of the Mayor 200 E. Wells St. City Hall, Room 201 Milwaukee, WI 53202

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The city government should protect our jobs and respect those choices.

Sincerely,

Kathy Gott

Kathy Lott



5520 W. Vliet St. Milwaukee, WI 53208

July 26, 2005

The Honorable Tom Barrett Office of the Mayor 200 E. Wells St. City Hall, Room 201 Milwaukee, WI 53202

Dear Mayor Barrett:

I have owned Wonder Bar! for 4 years in ward 10 and I wanted to urge you to consider the harm that a smoking ban will do to my businesses when you consider this issue. The Wonder Bar! has been in business since 1992, and there has been a service establishment where we operate since 1896. If my customers can not smoke, then I will lose business. It is that simple.

Many of my customers are smokers, and they come into my establishments to enjoy themselves. They will not be able to do this if they can not smoke. Does the government think people are going to go outside and come back into an establishment all night long? What are smokers going to do during a Packers or Badger game? People are not going to do this because they can just not stay as long, chose to stay home, or go to places outside of Milwaukee like they are doing in Madison.

People already have a choice on whether or not they go into a place that is smoking or non-smoking or both. Nobody has to come into my establishments if smoking bothers them. People have a choice on whether or not they patronize my businesses, and if the government passes this ban than many of them will no longer be my customers.

Sincerely,

George Voell



Milwaukee, WI 53208

July 26, 2005

The Honorable Michael J. Murphy 200 E. Wells St. City Hall, Room 205 Milwaukee, WI 53202

Dear Alderman Murphy:

I have owned Wonder Bar! for 4 years in your ward and I wanted to urge you to consider the harm that a smoking ban will do to my businesses when you consider this issue. The Wonder Bar! has been in business since 1992, and there has been a service establishment where we operate since 1896. If my customers can not smoke, then I will lose business. It is that simple.

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Sincerely,

George Voell
Syllall

Pat Niemi 5526 W. North Ave. Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53208

Alderman Michael J. Murphy 200 E. Wells St. City Hall, Room 205 Milwaukee, WI 53202

Dear Alderman Murphy:

Banning smoking in bars and restaurants would do nothing to help the employees of bars and restaurants. How could employees like me possibly be helped if we are forced into economic ruin? This is exactly what will happen if the Common Council and the Mayor decide to ban smoking in bars and restaurants.

I have worked as a bartender for 22 years, and the city government should respect my choice to work in an environment that allows smoking. My place of employment, Narrow Lane Tavern, would lose a ton of business if our customers were not allowed to smoke. We depend on our long-time regular customers to keep us in business and to help pay our paychecks. If they start staying home or going to places outside of the city to smoke and drink at the same time, then we could all end up losing our jobs.

Opposing this ban is the only way to truly protect workers in the city of Milwaukee, or we might end up losing our jobs.

Sincerely,

Pat Niemi

Let Nienil

Pat Niemi 5526 W. North Ave. Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53208

Mayor Tom Barrett Office of the Mayor 200 E. Wells St. City Hall, Room 201 Milwaukee, WI 53202

Dear Mayor Barrett:

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Opposing this ban is the only way to truly protect workers in the city of Milwaukee, or we might end up losing our jobs.

Sincerely,

Pat Niemi Lat Numi

Scott Angus Fairview Tap 6712 W. Fairview Ave. Milwaukee, WI 53213

July 27, 2005

Mayor Tom Barrett Office of the Mayor 200 E. Wells St. City Hall, Room 201 Milwaukee, WI 53202

Dear Mayor Barrett:

As the daytime bar manager of Fairview Tap, I wanted to send this letter to express to you my opposition to a smoking ban for bars and restaurants. I have worked in the hospitality industry a long time, and I know for a fact that a smoking ban will hurt bar owners and their employees if a ban is allowed to be enacted into law.

Many of our customers come into our establishment for long periods of time to enjoy themselves by socializing with their friends or to watch a sporting event. Not being able to smoke is going to impair this enjoyment and cause many of our customers to stay home or go to bars outside of the city limits where they can smoke and drink at the same time.

Most of our customers are smokers, so the government and the no-smoking zealots should respect the fact that like most bars we cater to smokers.

I hope that you will look out for your constituents and not support a ban.

Sincerely,

Scott Angus.

Acet program



2608 W. State St.., Milwaukee, WI 53233

July 28, 2005

The Honorable Tom Barrett Office of the Mayor 200 E. Wells St. City Hall, Room 201 Milwaukee, WI 53202

Dear Mayor Barrett:

I have owned Mike's On State in your ward for 13 years, and I wanted to let you know that I am against Alderman Davis's proposed smoking ban. A smoking ban is not a good idea for Milwaukee. Not having smoking in my business would be disastrous for me and my other employee.

80 percent of our customers smoke, and it will be next to impossible for them to keep going outside every few minutes because they will need someone to watch their beer or seat at the bar. A number of them will go to places outside our city limits, or they might end buying a 6 pack and staying at home where they can smoke and drink at the same time.

I have been a bar owner for a long time, so I think I know my customers better than Alderman Davis or anyone else trying to impose their smoking preference on private businesses. I know that a smoking ban will hurt my business. Please do let that happen and oppose this outrageous Ajrehal Christ legislation.

Sincerely,

Mike Christ Owner



2608 W. State St.., Milwaukee, WI 53233

July 28, 2005

Alderman Robert Bauman 200 E. Wells St. City Hall, Room 205 Milwaukee, WI 53202

Dear Alderman Bauman:

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Tyrchard Christ

Sincerely,

Mike Christ Owner LORE'S Bar & Grill 7284 W. Appleton Ave. Milwaukee, WI 53216

July 26, 2005

The Honorable Tom Barrett Office of the Mayor 200 E. Wells St. City Hall, Room 201 Milwaukee, WI 53202

Dear Mayor Barrett:

I have owned a bar and grill for about a year and half, and I am writing this letter to make sure that you are aware of my concerns about a Milwaukee smoking ban. This legislation would have a devastating effect my business, which is Lore's Bar & Grill.

My business is a private business. I have made the decision as a business owner to allow my customers to smoke. No one is forced to patronize my establishment if they do not like cigarette smoke.

Where is line going to be drawn about what people can and can not do on their own time? Is the government going to legislate junk food and alcohol next?

The proponents of smoking bans talk quite a bit about the health of bar and restaurant employees. They claim that they want to ban smoking in bars and restaurants to protect these employees, but they fail to take into account that most bar and restaurant employees smoke. **In fact, all 3 of my employees smoke.**

Thank you for your time and for reading my letter.

Sincerely, Janh Hehli

Harish Mehta

LORE'S Bar & Grill 7284 W. Appleton Ave. Milwaukee, WI 53216

July 26, 2005

The Honorable Michael J. Murphy 200 E. Wells St. City Hall, Room 205 Milwaukee, WI 53202

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In fact, all 3 of my employees smoke.

Thank you for your time and for reading my letter.

Sincerely, fundy that,

Harish Mehta

Kathy Christian, 8308 W. Congress St., Milwaukee, Wisc. 53218

The Honorable Tom Barrett Office of the Mayor 200 E. Wells St. City Hall, Room 201 Milwaukee, WI 53202

Dear Mayor Barrett:

The potential of a city smoking ban in bars and restaurants has me very worried about the future of my job as a bartender. The city government can't protect the health of employees in bars and restaurants by forcing them into economic ruin. Besides, I and many of my colleagues in this industry are smokers. We made the choice to smoke a legal product, and we are very well aware of the consequences. Big government doesn't need to protect us.

If smoking were banned in my workplace, we would no doubt see a decline in business, which would affect my tip earned income. Smoking and drinking go together.

I have worked as a bartender for 7 years, and I hope that you will use your leadership position to protect people like me.

Sincerely,

Kathy Christian

Kathy Christian

Kathy Christian, 8308 W. Congress St., Milwaukee, Wisc. 53218

Alderman Mike Murphy 200 E. Wells St. City Hall, Room 205 Milwaukee, WI 53202

Dear Alderman Murphy:

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I have worked as a bartender for 7 years, and I hope that you will use your leadership position to protect people like me.

Sincerely,

Kathy Christian

Kathy Christian

Wendy Hahn

6700 Fairview Ave., Milwaukee, WI 53213

July 27, 2005

Mayor Tom Barrett Office of the Mayor 200 E. Wells St. City Hall, Room 201 Milwaukee, WI 53202

Dear Mayor Barrett:

As the manager of Stooge's in Alderman Murphy's ward, I am writing to you to express to you my severe reservations about potential smoking ban for bars and restaurants in our city. As it has done in other places around the country like Lexington, KY and Madison, smoking bans in bars and restaurants have hurt these types of businesses.

If our customers can not enjoy their tobacco products in our establishment, then they are not going to stay as long or go to places outside the city to make additional purchases of alcohol and food. In turn, this will decrease the tax revenues for the city.

I have worked at Stooge's on and off for 13 years, which has made me sort of an expert on the hospitality industry. The hospitality industry requires you to do whatever you can to accommodate the needs of your customers and to keep them in your establishment as long as possible. Please consider a less restrictive ban that exempts businesses like ours whose livelihood depends on allowing smoking.

Our employees and I are depending on you to protect our incomes. I need this job to support my two children.

Sincerely.

Wendy Hahn Manager

and Sah

Alderman Michael Murphy 200 E. Wells St. City Hall, Room 205 Milwaukee, WI 53202

Dear Alderman Murphy:

I am writing to express to you my severe reservations about a potential smoking ban here in Milwaukee for bars and restaurants. The business where I am employed, Stooges Sportz Pub & Grill, would suffer a decline in business if our customers were barred from smoking.

The proponents of smoking bans claim that these types of bans do not hurt businesses, and that they protect children from second hand smoke. However, there are several problems with these arguments.

Our weather does not facilitate outdoor drinking dining 365 days a year like California or Florida. Many bars and restaurants, like us, do not have a patio to accommodate our smokers during the summer months. None of us have anything to accommodate our smokers during the winter months. Not to mention, many smokers and their non-smoking guests can travel to places outside the city limits.

The problem with the children argument is that there no children in bars. Only adults that chose to go into bars are the patrons in bars. If you really want to protect children then you will oppose a ban. My two young children will lose their financial protection if their mother is forced out of a job because of a smoking ban.

Sincerely,

Jenny Rodriguez

6700 W. Fairview Ave

Milwaukee, WI 53213

Alderman Willie L. Hines, Jr. 200 E. Wells St. City Hall, Room 205 Milwaukee, WI 53202

Dear President Hines:

I am writing to express to you my severe reservations about a potential smoking ban here in Milwaukee for bars and restaurants. The business where I am employed, Stooges Sportz Pub & Grill, would suffer a decline in business if our customers were barred from smoking.

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Sincerely,

Jenny Rodriguez

6700 W. Fairview Ave

Milwaukee, WI 53213



5501 W. Vliet St, Milwaukee, WI 53208

July 28, 2005

The Honorable Tom Barrett Office of the Mayor 200 E. Wells St. City Hall, Room 201 Milwaukee, WI 53202

Dear Mayor Barrett:

I am the owner of Coop's Tiny Tap located on W. Vliet St. in Alderman Murphy's ward, and I am extremely concerned about the economic consequences of a smoking ban for bars and restaurants. My hope is that you will protect the right to choose of small business owners and employees and not support a potential smoking ban for these types of establishments.

A large number of our customers and potential customers are smokers. Small businesses need to be able to cater to their entire customer base, or they will lose business. This will not only hurt the business owners, but it will also hurt their employees and their families.

The people pushing for a smoking ban are trying to dictate to me how I run my own business, and the city government should not let that happen. I have chosen to allow smoking in my establishment and everyone that comes into my establishment, including my employees, are there on their own free will. NO ONE IS FORCED TO GO INTO A SMOKING ESTABLISHMENT.

Before you take a final position on this issue, think of the single mother that is supporting her children through her flexible hours job as a bartender. Our city can not afford any layoffs, and therefore we can not afford a smoking ban.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Amy Cooper (

Amy Cooper (

President Milw. Co. Nosp. Assoc.

Gare-Bear's 927 N. 27th St. Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53208

July 28, 2005

The Honorable Robert Bauman 200 E. Wells St. City Hall, Room 205 Milwaukee, WI 53202

Dear Alderman Bauman:

As you well know, I have owned and operated a tavern in your ward for almost a quarter of a century. Throughout that time period, I have allowed my customers to smoke in my establishment. It is my hope that the city government will continue to allow me the opportunity to best serve my customers by allowing them to smoke and drink at the same time.

A very large percentage of my customers are smokers, and a smoking ban would definitely damage the economic viability of my business if they are not allowed to smoke. Our climate does not allow businesses like mine to offer year-round outdoor seating areas like New York and California.

I am aware that you have stated your concerns about this legislation, and I wanted to thank you for taking a stand for business owners like me.

My employees and I are counting on you, and we hope that you will stay on our side.

Sincerely,

Gary Lieske

Gare-Bear's 927 N. 27th St. Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53208

July 28, 2005

Mayor Tom Barrett Office of the Mayor 200 E. Wells St. City Hall, Room 201 Milwaukee, WI 53202

Dear Mayor Barrett:

I have owned and operated a tavern in Alderman Bauman's ward for almost a quarter of a century. Throughout that time period, I have allowed my customers to smoke in my establishment. It is my hope that the city government will continue to allow me the opportunity to best serve my customers by allowing them to smoke and drink at the same time.

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Sincerely,

Gary Lieske

Lenny's NISCONSIN BILLIAR

WISCONSIN BILLIARDS

2715 W. Wisconsin Ave. Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53208

July 28, 2005

Mayor Tom Barrett Office of the Mayor 200 E. Wells St. City Hall, Room 201 Milwaukee, WI 53202

Dear Mayor Barrett:

I have owned Lenny's Wisconsin Billiards in Alderman Bauman's ward for 12 years, and I wanted to thank you for realizing the harm that a smoking ban would do my business. If my customers could not smoke, then I would lose business.

This is an issue best left up to the owner of a particular business. I have to gone to great lengths to accommodate both smokers and non-smokers. When someone comes into my establishment they will immediately notice the excellent ventilation. I have fans and smoke eaters working to continuously clear the air in my business. I did not need the government to mandate the ventilation of my business for me. I am and always will meet consumer preferences.

If a non-smoking bar or other hospitality venue is what consumers are craving, then you would see non-smoking bars and other hospitality venues opening up all over Milwaukee. The reason why you do not see this is that a large number of people who frequent bars and other hospitality venues are smokers.

I feel that this is a freedom of choice issue, and I hope that you and some of your colleagues see some of the blatant problems that will occur with this type of legislation.

Sincerely,

Sconard E. Berg

Lenny's WISCONSIN BILLIARDS

2715 W. Wisconsin Ave. Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53208

July 28, 2005

The Honorable Robert Bauman 200 E. Wells St. City Hall, Room 205 Milwaukee, WI 53202

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Sincerely.

Lenny Berg